

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7913

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0743

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ITU ETEL

SUBJECT: ITU: SITE OF CCIR PLENARY AND FINAL STUDY GROUP MEETING

REFS: A) 75 STATE 292171, B) O'NEILL LETTER TO KIRBY DECEMBER
4, 1975

1. CCIR DIRECTOR RICHARD KIRBY REPORTED TO MISSION THAT HE MET
WITH WILLIAM BAZZY, PUBLISHER OF "TELECOMMUNICATIONS" MAGAZINE
ON FEBRUARY 2 AT LATTER'S REQUEST.

2. BAZZY REQUESTED THAT ITU HOLD CCIR PLENARY, NOW SCHEDULED FOR
SPRING 1978, IN FALL 1977 IN US INSTEAD TO COINCIDE WITH BAZZY'S
PROJECTED INTELCOM 1977 EXHIBIT. KIRBY NOTED THAT
ADMINSTRATIVE COUNCIL HAD PREVIOUSLY DECIDED TO RESCHEDULE CCIR
PLENARY FOR BUDGETARY REASONS FROM 1977 TO 1978 AND ADDED THAT HE
PERSONALLY OPPOSED MOVING PLENARY BACK TO 1977 AND BELIEVED IT
SHOULD BE HELD AS NOW PLANNED IN 1978.

3. BAZZY THEN INQUIRED AS TO POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING FINAL CCIR
STUDY GROUP (SG) SESSIONS IN FALL 1977 IN US CONCURRENTLY WITH
INTELCOM 77. KIRBY NOTED THAT WHILE FINAL SG SESSIONS WERE NOW
SCHEDULED FOR FALL 1977 IN GENEVA AND THAT WHILE KIRBY
HIMSELF HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO HOLDING THESE MEETINGS IN US,
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HE HAD ALREADY BEEN ADVISED BY STATE DEPARTMENT THAT US

UNABLE TO HOST THEM (SEE REFS). WHEN BAZZY SUGGESTED THAT SOME SG MEETINGS MIGHT BE HELD IN US AND OTHERS AT GENEVA HEADQUARTERS, KIRBY NOTED THAT THERE WERE STRONG FEELINGS IN SECRETARIAT THAT ALL SG MEETINGS BE HELD IN SAME PLACE AND THAT IT UNDESIRABLE TO HAVE SOME SG MEETINGS IN GENEVA AND SOME IN US.

4. AT THIS POINT BAZZY REQUESTED BUDGET ESTIMATES AS TO COST OF HOLDING ALL FINAL SG MEETINGS IN US. KIRBY REPLIED HE DID NOT HAVE SUCH ESTIMATES AT THIS TIME, BUT HE WOULD HAVE THESE PREPARED AND WOULD FURNISH TO STATE DEPARTMENT IF O'NEILL REQUESTED THEM. NOTE: KIRBY ADVISED MISSION HIS BALLPARK ESTIMATE WAS THAT 200 STAFF PERSONNEL WOULD BE REQUIRED, INCLUDING 60 WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE FLOWN IN FROM GENEVA. 200 FIGURE INCLUDES INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS, 60 FIGURE DOES NOT. ACCORDINGLY ANY LANGUAGE STAFF NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE FLOWN IN FROM GENEVA. HOST ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE REQUIRED TO FOOT BILL FOR TRANSPORTATION, ROOM AND BOARD FOR IMPORTED STAFF, COST OF SENDING LARGE VOLUME OF DOCUMENTATION, PROVIDING APPROPRIATE MEETING FACILITIES ALL WITH SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION EQUIPMENT PLUS DOCUMENT REPRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION INSTALLATIONS. KIRBY STATED HE WOULD HAVE DETAILED ESTIMATES WORKED UP ONLY IF REQUESTED BY O'NEILL BUT OTHERWISE WOULD NOT DO SO AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF EXTRA LABOR INVOLVED WHICH WOULD BE WASTED IF US GOVERNMENT HAD NO INTENTION OF HOSTING MEETINGS.

5. TO THIS BAZZY RETORTED THAT THERE WAS "ARMY OF SUPPORT" AND "INDUSTRYWIDE SUPPORT" FOR HOLDING SG MEETINGS IN US TO COINCIDE WITH INTELCOM 77 AND THAT THIS WOULD SOON BE MADE CLEAR TO STATE DEPARTMENT. HE NOTED FURTHER THAT US INDUSTRY WAS IN POSITION TO PICK UP ALL EXTRA COSTS INVOLVED IN HOLDING SG MEETINGS IN US.

6. COMMENT: GIVEN CONTINUOUS CONFLICT BETWEEN BAZZY AND ITU SECRETARIAT OVER TELECOM 75, WE WOULD EXPECT CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION FROM SECRETARIAT TO HOLDING SG MEETINGS IN US TO COINCIDE WITH INTELCOM 77. IN ADDITION WE UNDERSTAND THAT LARGEST US PROFESSIONAL GROUP IN FIELD, IEEE, HAS HAD MAJOR FALLING OUT WITH BAZZY AND WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY ACTIVITY
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CONNECTED WITH HIM. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONTACT DAVE SOLOMON, DOD, WHO IS IEEE OFFICIAL, FOR DETAILS. IN ADDITION MISSION ASSUMES DEPARTMENT AWARE THAT ITU HOSTING AGREEMENTS ARE MADE ONLY WITH ADMINISTRATIONS (I.E., GOVERNMENTS) AND THAT ADMINISTRATIONS ARE THUS THEMSELVES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING ALL FUNDS REQUIRED; IF PRIVATE SPONSOR INVOLVED, ADMINISTRATIONS MUST THEN OBTAIN REIMBURSEMENT FOR MONIES EXPENDED FROM SUCH PRIVATE SPONSORS.

7. PLEASE ADVISE RESPONSE TO KIRBY RE FINAL SENTENCE PARA 4.
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